

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Activity in the Sperenberg Area; New Amphibious VehicleEVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTE

DATE OBTAINED

PREPARED 16 September 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 - one sketch on dittoREMARKS This is UNEVALUATED

1. From 31 August to 6 September 1954, the Kaserne on Schumke Lake (3441) quartered about 2,500 soldiers including the unit bivouacking on Hege Lake. The troops wore black-bordered black, blue-bordered black and red-bordered black epaulets. On 31 August, 15 three-axle amphibious cars and 3 trucks with soldiers passed through Sperenberg and proceeded toward Hege Lake.

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25X1

2. The unit with amphibious tanks on Hege Lake was seen during the period of observation. On 2 September, 3 amphibious tanks were seen for the first time. They came from the camp on Hege Lake and drove to the kaserne on Schumke Lake via Sperenberg. On 3 September, about 30 amphibious tanks passed through Sperenberg and proceeded toward Kammersdorf village.

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Description of the amphibious vehicle:

- a. Chassis: the vehicle had seven bogie wheels which were somewhat larger than the drive sprockets. They did not touch the upper part of the track.

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- b. Superstructure: the vehicle is larger than a T-34 tank. The hull resembles that of a three-axle amphibious vehicle. It had, however, a boat-shaped bow. Two 3-blade screw propellers, which could be covered flaps, projected from the slanting rear. A strong lattice which, presumably, could be pulled down to protect the screws, was fitted above the latter. The vehicles had no turret and armament. The hatch was in the center of the deck. The commander stood in the hatch and two other soldiers were also seen on the tank.

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3. The Eisenbahnpionier Kaserne (3381) was occupied as previously by approximately 2,000 soldiers who wore red-bordered black and black-bordered black epaulets. On 4 September, approximately 30 x 85-mm and

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-2-

1. Comment. The barracks installation on Schenke Lake is believed to be occupied by the 35th Eng Regt of the Third Gdr Army and the special unit with amphibious vehicles of the unidentified engineer regiment of the GDR in Dornitz which has been bivouacking on Hage Lake since 20 April.
2. Comment. All reports on the new amphibious tanks originated from this source only, who used this designation for the first time in July 1954. Corresponding information by the other sources indicated that, on 13/16 June 1954, an undetermined number of amphibious vehicles from the USSR were dispatched to the unidentified engineer regiment in Dornitz and then, employed for practice on Hage lake. The above description and the sketch confirm the fact that a new amphibious vehicle is in existence in the GDR. The designation amphibious tank would be justified only if the vehicle were armed with heavy weapons. The new amphibious car presumably is a tracklaying vehicle which may be armored.
3. Comment. The installation is still occupied by the headquarters and a regiment of the 2d Gdr AAA Div.

NODEX

SECRET

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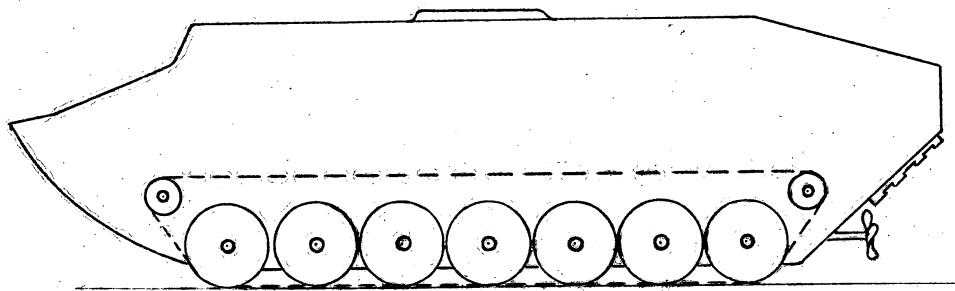
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Annex

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